

REMARKS

Claim 17 is amended merely to correct a clerical error.

In the Office Action dated 06/07/2006, the Examiner restricts the claim set as filed into three species: Species A in figure 4, species B in figure 5, and species C in figure 6 (Office Action page 2, ¶ 1). Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement for the reasons set forth in the following paragraphs. Nevertheless, in a *bona fide* effort to move this case to allowance, Applicant herein affirmatively elects Species A: Claims 1-14, 16-17 and 19-24.

Relying on, for example, MPEP § 803, Applicant respectfully asserts that the Restriction Requirement is improper because the Examiner, by way of the Office Action, has not shown that a search and examination of the entire application will cause a serious burden to him. Referring, to MPEP § 806.05(c)(I), a serious search burden is "evidenced by separate classification, status, or field of search."

Applicants assert that all the claims as filed, thus all three Groups as restricted by the Examiner, will not only likely be under the same US Classification, but will almost certainly be under the same US Sub-Classification, whereby searching the entire claim set as filed will not prove overly burdensome.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1-51 should be recombined for examination purposes, even if no generic claim is found to be allowable, and such recombination and reconsideration is hereby respectfully requested.

Serial No. 10/693,293
Confirm No. 4133

-15-

29738-1

No fee is believed to be due at this time. Should any fee be properly due, or if any refund is due, kindly charge same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 23-2130.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns, at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Alfred E. Petrie Jr.

Date: October 30, 2006

By:



Eric J. Lalor
Attorney for Applicant
(Reg. No. 54,631)

Customer Number: 23482

*Wilhelm Law Service, S.C.
100 W. Lawrence St., 3rd Fl.
Appleton, Wisconsin 54911
Telephone: 920-831-0100
Facsimile: 920-831-0101*